

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	: Shuichi HIRATA et al.	Confirmation No.: 3667
Appln. No.	: 10/596,218	Examiner: P. D. Kim
Filed	: June 5, 2006	Group Art Unit: 3729
For	: METHOD OF CONTROLLING CONTACT LOAD IN ELECTRONIC COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS	

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 15, 2008, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on November 17, 2008 (November 15, 2008 falling on a Saturday), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the outstanding rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the claims now pending.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.
Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.